



7 May 2024

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To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing on behalf of Imam Yasir Butt, a remarkable interfaith leader who is promoting peaceful coexistence amidst different religious traditions in Utah and beyond.

I have been fortunate to engage with an impressive array of interfaith leaders from around the world in my career as an academic. Imam Butt has the abilities, characteristics, experiences, and skills that are necessary to thrive as a peacemaker in the USA, and indeed the world. He is attentive, compassionate, knowledgeable, and respectful. He could be an invaluable teacher for communities that are seeking knowledge on how to embrace diversity in a constructive and fruitful manner.

I became acquainted with Imam Butt when he invited me onto his podcast in 2022 to discuss my knowledge of Muhammad, the prophet of Islam, and my experiences in studying Islam and Christian-Muslim relations. On another occasion, he hosted an online talk organized by the Emeralds Hills Institute regarding my book – *The Humanity of Muhammad – A Christian View*. On both occasions, he impressed me with his knowledge of sacred Islamic principles and his ability to clearly articulate their relevance to community building in the twenty-first century. I also worked with Imam Butt in the Spring semester of 2024, when he delivered a guest lecture to my Social Problems (SOCI-231) course at Rice University. He was exceptionally well-received by a diverse group of over forty graduate students, many of whom applauded him for his thoughtfulness and expertise.

Imam Butt is deeply committed to peace and understanding across the perceived religious divides. He is an impressive leader and I am giving my highest recommendation as he seeks to further his noble earthly mission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Craig Considine".

Dr. Craig Considine